

CLAIMS:

1. A downhole tool comprising a body having a bore extending longitudinally therethrough, wherein the tool further comprises a one-way valve for allowing a flow of fluid in a first direction through the tool bore and preventing a flow of fluid in a second direction through the tool bore, the second direction being opposite to the first direction; means for rendering the one-way valve inoperable so as to be ineffective at preventing fluid flow; and means for selectively making the one-way valve operable so as to be effective at allowing fluid flow in said first direction and preventing fluid flow in said second direction.
2. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 1, wherein the means for rendering the one-way valve inoperable comprises means for restricting movement of said valve.
3. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 2, wherein said movement restricting means is movable relative to the tool body and is biased towards a position wherein movement of the one-way valve is not restricted so as to render said valve inoperable.
4. A downhole tool as claimed in claims 2 or 3, wherein said means for selectively making the one-way valve operable comprises means for releasably retaining said movement restricting means in a position wherein the one-way valve is inoperable.
5. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 4, wherein said means for releasably retaining said movement restricting means comprises a shear pin securing said movement restricting means to the tool body.
6. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 4, wherein said means for releasably retaining said movement restricting means comprises a latching means.

7. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 6, wherein said latching means comprises a pin mounted to one of the tool body and movement restricting means; and a groove, for receiving the pin, mounted in the other of the tool body and movement restricting means.
8. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 7, wherein the groove defines a closed loop.
9. A downhole tool as claimed in any of claims 2 to 8, wherein said means for selectively making the one-way valve operable comprises a nozzle which is mounted on said movement restricting means and is movable between a first position, in which a flow of fluid through the body bore is restricted by the nozzle, and a second position, in which a flow of fluid through the body bore is not resisted by the nozzle or is resisted to a lesser extent by the nozzle than when the nozzle is in the first position.
10. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 9, wherein the nozzle is mounted on said movement restricting means with a pivotal connection so that the nozzle tends to be moved to the first position by a fluid flowing through the tool bore in said first direction.
11. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 9 or 10, wherein means are provided for retaining the nozzle in the second position when said movement restricting means is in a position wherein movement of the one-way valve is not restricted so as to render said valve inoperable.
12. A downhole tool as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein the one-way valve comprises a closure member pivotally mounted to the tool body and movable between a first position, in which fluid within the body bore may flow passed the closure member, and a second position, in which fluid within the body bore is prevented from flowing passed the closure member so that fluid on one side of the closure member is isolated from fluid on an opposite side of the closure member.
13. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 9, wherein the closure member is biased towards the second position.

14. A downhole tool comprising a body having a bore extending longitudinally therethrough, wherein the tool further comprises a one-way valve for allowing a flow of fluid in a first direction through the tool bore and preventing a flow of fluid in a second direction through the tool bore, the second direction being opposite to the first direction; means for rendering the one-way valve inoperable so as to be ineffective at preventing fluid flow; and means for selectively making the one-way valve inoperable so as to be ineffective at preventing fluid flow in said second direction.

15. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 14, wherein the means for rendering the one-way valve inoperable comprises means for restricting movement of said valve.

16. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 15, wherein said movement restricting means is movable relative to the tool body.

17. A downhole tool as claimed in claims 15 or 16, wherein said means for selectively making the one-way valve inoperable comprises means for releasably retaining said movement restricting means in a position wherein the one-way valve is operable.

18. A downhole tool as claimed in claim 17, wherein said means for releasably retaining said movement restricting means comprises a shear pin securing said movement restricting means to the tool body.